IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, in this application.

Claims 1-33 (canceled)

34. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising a promoter, a recombinase recognition sequence, a selectable drug-resistance gene having an mRNA-destablizing sequence, a polyA addition signal, a recombinase recognition sequence, a gene encoding a viral structural protein, and a polyA addition signal, arranged in this order, which produces a short-lived transcript of the drug-resistance gene and wherein said promoter transcribes the gene encoding a viral structural protein in a prepackaging cell.

Claims 35-40 (canceled)

41. (previously presented) The expression vector as set forth in claim 34, in which the mRNA-destablizing sequence is an mRNA-destabilizing sequence of a c-fos gene.

42. (previously presented) The expression vector as set forth in claim 34, in which the drug-resistance gene is selected from the group consisting of a neomycin resistance gene, a puromycin resistance gene and a hygromycin resistance gene.

43. (previously presented) Cells into which the expression vector as set forth in claim 34 has been transferred and selected with the drug.

44. (previously presented) A process for producing cells expressing a gene encoding a viral structural protein in the expression vector as set forth in claim 34, comprising:

(a) transferring the expression vector into cells,

(b) selecting cells which express the drug-resistance gene from the transferred expression vector, and

(c) expressing the gene encoding a viral structural protein in the expression vector in the selected cells.

45. (previously presented) A process for expressing a gene encoding a viral structural protein in the expression vector as set forth in claim 34, comprising:
(a) transferring the expression vector into cells having gag and pol genes of a retrovirus,
(b) selecting prepackaging cells which express the drug-resistance gene from the transferred expression vector, and
(c) expressing the gene encoding a viral structural protein in the expression vector in the selected prepackaging cells.

Claims 46-57 (canceled)

58. (previously presented) An expression vector comprising a promoter, a recombinase recognition sequence, a selectable drug-resistance gene having an mRNA-destablizing sequence, a polyA addition signal, a recombinase recognition sequence, a foreign gene, and a polyA addition signal, arranged in this order, which produces a short-lived transcript of the drug-resistance gene and wherein said promoter transcribes the foreign gene in a prepackaging cell.

59. (previously presented) The expression vector as set forth in claim 58, in which the mRNA-destablizing sequence is an mRNA-destabilizing sequence of a c-fos gene.

60. (previously presented) The expression vector as set forth in claim 58, in which the drug-resistance gene is selected from the group consisting of a neomycin resistance gene, a puromycin resistance gene and a hygromycin resistance gene.

61. (previously presented) Cells into which the expression vector as set forth in claim 58 has been transferred and selected with the drug.

62. (previously presented) A process for producing cells expressing a foreign gene in the expression vector as set forth in claim 58, comprising:

(a) transferring the expression vector into cells,

(b) selecting cells which express the drug-resistance gene from the transferred expression vector, and

(c) expressing the foreign gene in the expression vector in the selected cells.

63. (previously presented) A process for expressing a foreign gene in the expression vector as set forth in claim 58, comprising:

(a) transferring the expression vector into cells having gag and pol genes of a retrovirus,

(b) selecting prepackaging cells which express the drug-resistance gene from the transferred expression vector, and

(c) expressing the foreign gene in the expression vector in the selected prepackaging cells.

64. (previously presented) An expression vector to be expressed in a prepackaging cell comprising a first LTR of a retrovirus genome and a packaging signal, a recombinase recognition sequence, a selectable drug-resistance gene having an mRNA-destablizing sequence, a polyA addition signal, a recombinase recognition sequence, a foreign gene, and a second LTR of a retrovirus genome, arranged in this order, which produces a short-lived transcript of the drug-resistance gene.

65. (previously presented) The expression vector as set forth in claim 64, in which the mRNA-destablizing sequence is an mRNA-destabilizing sequence of a c-fos gene.

66. (previously presented) The expression vector as set forth in claim 64, in which the drug-resistance gene is selected from the group consisting of a neomycin resistance gene, a puromycin resistance gene and a hygromycin resistance gene.

67. (previously presented) Cells into which the expression vector as set forth in claim 64 has been transferred and selected with the drug.

68. (previously presented) A process for producing cells expressing a foreign gene in the expression vector as set forth in claim 64, comprising:

(a) transferring the expression vector into cells,

(b) selecting cells which express the drug-resistance gene from the transferred expression vector, and

(c) expressing the foreign gene in the expression vector in the selected cells.

69. (previously presented) A process for expressing a foreign gene in the expression vector as set forth in claim 64, comprising:

(a) transferring the expression vector into cells having gag and pol genes of a retrovirus,

(b) selecting prepackaging cells which express the drug-resistance gene from the transferred expression vector, and

(c) expressing the foreign gene in the expression vector in the selected prepackaging cells.